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MAGICK in Modern day and Everyday!

Aleister Crowley defined Magick as - "the Art and Science of Causing Change to Occur in conformity with Will"

This concise definition makes no reference to forces, rituals, tools, words of power, symbols or any of the things we generally associate with magick. All or some of these along with other elements could be utilized, but none are magickal of themselves.

Many everyday situations can require something extra to get through them.

Few have everything handed over in a convenient package - some that do have trouble knowing what they really want in life and are easily bored with everything, others know very well what they want but seem to fail miserably. Most of us fall somewhere in between, the difficult part is seeing that we have set this up for ourselves by accepting limitations, believing and living various forms of conditioning, allowing circumstances to trap us into a box, failing to see what is available and not seizing opportunities when they are in front of us.

Most Magick is not about causing supernatural or miraculous events to occur, one can manifest many of these things and yet fail completely at having what they consider a satisfactory life. It is simply freeing the mind and liberating people from their own fears and inhibitions that prevent them from receiving what they want in life.

Introduction

The most basic tools we have to work with are our own hands. Any job at hand will reap the best results if we use the correct tools. In Magick these tools are of a psychic nature, but there are still many types of tools and ways in which they are best utilized, you wouldn't use a sledge hammer to crack a walnut, or a light bulb to cook your dinner, but these tools are of the type that gets the job done. Knowing what is most appropriate and most useful saves wasted efforts and disappointment with results.

It takes less psychic energy to levitate an object by means of illusion and trickery then it does to move it with the power of your mind, for what is in effect a parlour trick do you really want to waste your resources when they can be put to better use? Using Magick for creating the mindset in yourself conducive for natural means of acquisition will not burn you out and while slower leaves the results more under control.

Looking at the hands in an esoteric sense we will start to see what we are working with, and begin the process.

The Left hand represents destiny, events set in motion outside of our control, forces of nature, cycles outside of ourselves and those occurring naturally within ourself.

The Right hand represents free will, how we respond to circumstances, the ability to attune to natural cycles, cultivation of what is beneficial and harnessing and pruning what is not to a more productive use.

The Thumb represents Ego, who we are deep inside, be it inherent or through conditioning most will have an imbalanced ego. Not knowing deep down who we are it is not possible to express who we are to the utmost.

The First finger represents Will, concentrated effort for a specific purpose, be that in movement, interaction or taking control over bodily functions. Directing the will is key to attainment of goals.

The Second finger represents Conscience, the inner voice and knowing, this can be manipulated and often is by our upbringing, socio-economic factors etc. These things can get in the way of will and expression of the ego, but a healthy conscience will keep us on the right path. Remember this is ultimately the core of our defense mechanisms, risk taking of any kind conflicts with it, and false beliefs can open us to other kinds of danger.

The Third finger represents Creativity, what we would call original ideas. Of course there is allways outside influence of some form and limitations in the resources we have available factor in to its expression. Some appear to have practically no creativity whatsoever, I do not mean artistic talent here - I mean the ability to think for oneself, many can go about only able to answer in formulas and memorized terms.

The forth finger represents Desire, the forces of compulsion, this is the source of addictions, it is also the core of motivation. Misplaced desire interferes with goal setting and satisfaction in life. Concentrated effort against a wrongful desire will only make that thing stronger.

So one hand is the cards we are dealt in life, and the other is our ability the use

and possibly change them.

Don't be scared to look into yourself and be honest about what you see. In a game such as poker it may be possible to bluff your opponents, but if you allways rely on this technique you will soon cease being invited to play or it will not work because opponants are used to this. If you have a bad hand, see what is useful for creating a good hand that could win the game.

Much could be said about correspondences, techniques, words, mystical scripts, sigils etc. This is a worthwhile study, but these things are useless without the inner working and drive. Magick is about action and results, about seeing within ourself and the world around what is was and shall be. Tried and true methods still require the heart and drive to carry them across into manifestation.

The Hermetic Quanternary gives us a framework to go about the work of transformation, exercises built around this guide us along the way to self discovery and manifestation.

TO WILL – First we need to establish desire, sounds easy buts not necessarily – what you state you want, even to yourself only, is not always what you really want.

Setting about to acquire what sounds appealing but is far from what you are actually seeking will leave you unsatisfied and could have disastrous results. That is why many occult groups concern themselves with Self Discovery and doing away with conditioning. KNOW THYSELF – enough to be confident in asking what you want and knowing you deserve to receive it so therefore nothing can prevent it.

TO KNOW – Trailing from this course of self discovery we analyze the desire itself, circumstances, resources.

Engaging the mind to see what is required for the thing to come to be. Knowing what we lack and what is needed, laying out a plan. Effective visualization is a key element, imagination is based on some kind of knowledge, feeling is derived from sensation. Remember the word here is KNOW not believe, false belief leads to false manifestations, disappointment – convincing your Self that you believe is not Magick it is an exercise in creating stress for your self, look at why you do not believe and you remove obstacles.

TO DARE – Facing fears, conquering inhibitions and conditioning of your Self.

Being willing to go and do 'whatever it takes'. Setting time aside, prioritizing, following through. Resilience is called for, pushing through obstacles is part of the process and acquisition, tests along the way to see that you know what you are doing, that you really want it. Harnessing sufficient energy.

TO KEEP SILENT – So much more then oaths of secrecy or refraining from chat about your spellwork.

SET IT AND FORGET IT, keys and reminders will be placed along the way when you need to reaffirm or apply more. Anxiety and doubt are reasons for needing to repeat mentally and verbally what you have done, if you did what was necessary, know what is involved being aware of time and process, and were utterly steadfast in the working then you have no need to boast or prove yourself, its about results not about impressing people or boosting your ego.

1 - TO WILL

What do you want? What do you really want? Why do you want it? Why don't you have it then?

Why do you feel you need the assistance of Magick in order to have this? Maybe you don't really want it. Forget about what you have been taught are the good things to seek in life, and what are touted as the things that will make you happy.

The planets represent different aspects of your personality, all are there, some may be more apparent then others but this is just the way we perceive them.

Sun	Self expression
Moon	Subconscious
Mercury	Scheming
Venus	Sensual
Mars	Striving
Jupiter	Superior
Saturn	Submitting

The signs of the Zodiac are twelve ways we can express these parts of our personality. Negative possibility derogatory terms have been deliberately chosen here because we need to be completely honest with ourselves in order to make any progress, none is any better or worse, it is simply a way to express ourselves and knowing enables us to make the best use, or adapt where necessary.

Aries	Arrogant
Taurus	Stubborn
Gemini	Indecisive
Cancer	Slutty
Leo	Overconfident
Virgo	Nervous
Libra	Opinionated
Scorpio	Perverted
Sagittarius	Rebellious
Capricorn	Psychopathic
Aquarius	Naive
Pisces	Needy

Think about the seven parts of your personality and which sign seems to best describe how you perceive yourself, go about interactions etc. At times this may be inconsistent, sometimes we prefer to create an illusion or simply realize that diferent circumstances call for a different approach

If you are aware of your own natal chart this may or may not be consistent with your personality as shown here, this is not of much importance because we are not interpreting a chart or looking at how different factors influence each other.

Go back to the question of what you want. State it in terms of who you are and work on the details, ask why you want this and how it will fit into place. Think things through, being vague in asking gives you vague results and leaves more room for unintended consequences, these will allways factor in, but knowing and stating precisely what you want puts you in a better position to deal with them.

2 - TO KNOW

Having established intent we can begin to look at what is required for the spell or ritual itself. What type of Magick is best for the work at hand? What can be used to express the intent? Is a particular time going to ease the process and how long can we expect to see results? What forces are conducive to the magick being worked what forces are opposed?

First step once we have worked through these questions is to work with the Elements, ascertaining the process, requirements and how we fit things together.

EARTH – Sensation. What is the practical side to this? The preparatory work already underway is part of this. Knowing what tools and resources are at hand, getting hold of them, and finding ways to improvise what is not available.

AIR – Idea. Shaping the desire into a more legible form, filling in and refining the details. Calculation of factors involved. Writing out the script, so to speak.

FIRE – Action. Simply doing. Some things may not seem ready, but rarely will we find anything ideal before we start, and often doubt or feeling unprepared can be the only thing that is actually holding us back. Again we come back to the issue of fears and inhibitions, how often have you held back from doing something until somebody put you on the spot.

WATER – Emotion. Having motivation will get us past the obstacles. Sending the right type of energy will push results along and sustain us through what can be difficult and painful processes. Creating the atmosphere that will attune us. Knowing just the right stimulus will propel, sometimes it may not be comfortable, just as water can be still or hazardous but each being useful for different purposes the emotional content required depends on what is being called for

Next we start gathering what I will refer to as symbols, these are: ritual tools, supplies and equipment relevant to the enactment; items to stimulate the senses – sight, sound, taste and touch, whatever brings to mind the intent and aids you in raising sufficient emotional and psychic energy.

Tune in to yourself, the environs, the symbols, spend some time syncing up with the spirit and forces needed. Check and recheck the work and preparation so far.

3 - TO DARE

Now it is possible to get to work on the Magick itself step by step, not necessarily in this order other then opening and closing.

1 Preparation –

Set aside the time and space, turn off the phone etc, gather all the items you need and set up your working space be that a (semi) permanent altar or otherwise. Clear what is not necessary from the space, clean thoroughly with the intent of removing psychic muck and clutter that has gathered. Bathe or otherwise cleanse yourself and clear your mind, focus on what is at hand and what you are aiming to achieve, if you become distracted do not push to clear the thoughts just let the thoughts gently move on and return to your intent.

2 Opening -

Dedicate the space, raise a field of psychic energy over the area to set it aside. Summon the elemental guardians, invoke relevant deities and spirits whose presence you wish to have for witness and assistance. Light candles and incense.

3 Visualization –

build a picture of what you are doing and desire in your mind, let it enter into the tools and symbolic items you have gathered. Observe the interaction of various forces and spirits present.

4 Raising Energy –

Build up emotional content from the visualization, let it fill you, the tools, symbols, and space. Focus.

5 Harness & Direct -

Bring the energy raised inward, filter it through and guide it to the objects and intent.

6 Procedure –

Working of the spell itself, implementation of tools and working the objects to represent your intent. Prayers and imprecations.

7 Release –

Allow the raised and worked energy to move out and begin its work.

8 Closing -

Thank the spirits and elemental guardians for their presence. Establish in your mind that the spell has been set, like a clock wound up, you can let it run its course now. Extinguish candles and allow the field raised to dissolve so that the Magick can move out and do its work.

9 Grounding –

Bring yourself back to the 'real world'. Let excess energy move out of you and to where it came from. Turn the phone back on etc, have something to eat and carry on with your day/night.

"Bind the Wiccan Rede ye must, in perfect love and perfect trust, Eight words the Wiccan Rede Fulfill 'An it harm none, do as ye will"

To love and to trust we eliminate doubt, Magick cannot proceed if we are constantly doubting the efficacy of what has been done. What is done is done, you should have considered moral issues relevant to you before the working so needn't be concerned about consequences on this front.

The point of working the Magick was to assert willpower over the situation, you can withstand questioning but do not need to explain yourself. You certainly do not need to prove yourself, if you feel you do then you have missed the point.

What is done is done, now you just wait and follow whatever course has been set in place. True you need to walk the path, but you are sure of your destination, stopping along the way to tell others about the place you are going is a good way to delay or even prevent you from getting there.

Suggestions can be planted so easily into ones mind, subtly in ways we do not notice until they start to noticeably affect us. Scepticism and apprehension is rife when it comes to Magick, and there are also many competitors and power trippers among believers – there will be people and forces along the way trying to hinder your progress and steal what you have gained.

This is not to say we should be paranoid, just that we should not waste time and effort.

MAGICK

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There is an abundance of books and materials available today on magic. Unfortunately many of them fail to address the psychological prerequisites or prepare one for what they are really tapping into.

One unacquainted with kitchens could have difficulty following a cookbook, and certainly few would even think of modifying a circuit-board themselves without some understanding of electronics. Yet many will pick up books on Magic, witchcraft and various occult sciences and begin rewiring themselves and try to manipulate forces around them with little or no preparation or understanding.

In previous ages these teachings and practices would be passed on only after much preparation and groundwork. This course aims to lay those foundations and establish awareness of self and the forces we are trying to utilize.



Old World UnderWorld

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